

MARKED UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS

- 25. (Thrice Amended) A polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid construct comprising the following nucleic acid sequences in the following order:
- a) at least one promoter element operably linked to;
- b) at least one nucleic acid sequence which encodes an active compound, wherein said active compound is endogenous to mammals, operably linked to;
- c) at least one nucleic acid sequence which encodes an amino acid sequence cleavable specifically by a protease which is released <u>at or</u> from a mammalian <u>target</u> cell, operably linked to;
- d) at least one DNA sequence which encodes a polypeptide which is bound [by a peptide bond] to said active compound by said cleavable amino acid sequence and inhibits the activity of said compound,

wherein said polypeptide comprises the active compound or compounds of b), the cleavable sequence or sequences of c), and the inhibitor or inhibitors of d), and wherein said nucleic acid component c) does not naturally occur as operably linking said nucleic acid sequence b) to said nucleic acid d).